(b) There is one Homoeopathy and one Ayurvedic dispensary of CGHS in Patna (Bihar). There is no ISM&H unit under CGHS in Jharkhand at present.

(c) to (e) Keeping in view constraints of resources and manpower, there is no proposal to open ISM&H units in Jharkhand at present.

Spread of deadly diseases

†2993. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that deadly diseases are spreading due to consumption of polluted water in the country particularly in slums and rural areas; and

(b) if so, the measures Government are taking to protect the life and property of the people and save them from such diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Despite several steps being taken by the Government, there continues to be a prevalence of water-borne diseases in the country particularly in slums and rural areas. The precautionary measures being taken by the Government include provision of safe drinking water and taking adequate steps to improve hygienic sanitation facilities to be vulnerable sections of the society both in rural and urban areas. Steps have also been taken to create awareness among the masses about good sanitary habits and health seeking behaviour, which will contribute to reduction of incidence of water borne diseases. The Government has also initiated an Oral Rehydration Therapy Programme and a National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases as a pilot project in selected districts for detection of early warning signals of outbreaks of cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases and rapid response for prevention and control of these outbreaks.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.